गठन करने, इत्यादि जैसे अनेक कदम उठाए हैं। केन्द्र सरकार राज्य सरकार के साथ निरंतर सम्पर्क बनाए हुए है और मांग किए जाने पर राज्य सरकार को सभी संभव सहायता उपलब्ध करा रही है।

**Visit of British M. P. to J and K**

*52. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. Kaufman, and M.P. belonging to Labour Party in the U.K. visited J & K in the second week of August, 1991;

(b) whether he had stated that J & K is not a bilateral issue but an international one; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mr. Kaufman had advocated a peaceful and negotiated solution of the Kashmir question. In this context he had put forward the idea of a possible Commonwealth role in resolving the Kashmir issue.

(c) It was impressed upon Mr. Kaufman that the Government hopes to resolve this matter with Pakistan bilaterally and through peaceful negotiations in terms of the Simla Agreement and that there was no question of any mediation, good offices or intervention by any third party, including the Commonwealth.

**Legal Hurdles faced by MTNL**

*53. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article that appeared in the 'Indian Express', Bombay of August 1, 1991 titled 'Legal hurdles bog down MTNL';

(b) the amount of loss to the MTNL during the years 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) what is estimated loss to MTNL during the current financial year due to this lacunae in the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has informed that it is not possible to ascertain the amount of loss.

**Ambushes and killings in Assam, Nagaland and Manipur**

*54. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ten policemen and at least five Army jawans were ambushed and killed in Karbi Anglong District of Assam and Manipur's Ukhrul District on August 14, 1991;

(b) whether the Speaker of Nagaland Assembly was also injured in the ambush in Assam;

(c) whether Assam's Karbi Anglong District was observing a bandh on the day of the incident;

(d) if so, what was the cause of the bandh; and

(e) whether ambushes and killings in Assam, Nagaland and Manipur by militants are on the increase?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Four Jawans of Assam Rifles and ten Policemen were killed respectively in two ambushes one laid in the Ukhrul district of Manipur on 13th August, 1991 and the other in the Karbi-Anglong district of Assam on 14th August 1991.

(b) Yes, Sir.